

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 23, 24 and 26 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter, and amend the claims as shown below. The claims, as pending in the subject application, read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus which includes IP (Internet Protocol) communication means and transmits/receives communication data to/from a destination station discriminated by a telephone number, comprising:

IP address obtaining means for obtaining an IP address of the destination station from an SIP (Session Initiation Protocol) proxy server based on the telephone number of the destination station;

facsimile communication means for performing facsimile communication on a line switching network;

converting means for converting a signal that said facsimile communication means transmits/receives into data on an IP network;

IP network connecting means ~~adapted for connection~~ connecting to the IP network; and

control means for controlling to,
if ~~[[it]]~~ the destination station is able to transmit/receive communication data on the IP network based on a predetermined file transmit/receive protocol, start to transmit/receive image data to/from the destination station based on the predetermined file transmit/receive protocol, via the IP network connecting means, using

the obtained IP address of the destination station, in response to the acquirement of the IP address by said IP address obtaining means, ~~and~~

if [[it]] said destination station is not able to transmit/receive communication data on the IP network based on the predetermined file transmit/receive protocol, cause said facsimile communication means to start transmission/reception of image data to/from the destination station based on a predetermined file transmit/receive protocol, in response to the acquirement of the IP address of the destination station by said IP address obtaining means, and cause said converting means to execute conversion of the signal that said facsimile communication means transmits/receives and transmit/receive thus converted signal to/from the destination station via said IP network connecting means, and

if said destination station is able to transmit/receive the communication data based on the predetermined file transmit/receive protocol, said control means transmits a response confirmation signal to the destination station relevant to the obtained IP address and starts the transmission of the image data, in response to reception of a corresponding response signal of the destination station from said SIP proxy server.

2. and 3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said IP address obtaining means judges, by analyzing the telephone number of the destination station, whether or not [[it]] the obtaining means is able to perform the communication with the destination station via a VoIP (Voice over Internet Protocol)

network, and tries to obtain the IP address of the destination station from a predetermined server when it is able to perform the communication via the VoIP network, and said control means transmits/receives the communication data to/from the destination station on the IP network based on the first predetermined file transmit/receive protocol by using the obtained IP address of the destination station.

5. (Previously Presented) A communication apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said IP network connecting means is an ADSL (Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line) modem.

6. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the IP address of the destination station is obtained from a predetermined server based on the telephone number of the destination station by using a predetermined UDP (User Datagram Protocol), and said control means controls to transmit/receive the communication data to/from the destination station by using the obtained IP address of the destination station, based on a predetermined TCP (Transmission Control Protocol).

7. (Currently Amended) A control method executed in [[of]] a communication apparatus which includes an IP communication means and transmits/receives communication data to/from a destination station discriminated by a telephone number, ~~comprising the steps of:~~ an IP address obtaining means for obtaining an IP address of the destination station from an SIP proxy server based on the telephone number of the destination station[[:]], a facsimile communication means for performing a

facsimile communication on a line switching network[[]] , a converting means for converting into data a signal that said facsimile communication means transmits/receives into data transmitted/received on the IP network[[]] , an IP connecting means for connecting IP-network-connecting means to an IP network[[]] and a control unit, the method comprising:

controlling to,

if the destination station is able to transmit/receive communication data on the IP network based on a predetermined file transmit/receive protocol, the control unit controlling to start to transmit/receive image data to/from the destination station based on the predetermined file transmit/receive protocol using the obtained IP address of the destination station, in response to the acquirement of the IP address, and

if the destination station is not able to transmit/receive communication data on the IP network based on the first predetermined file transmit/receive protocol, the control unit controlling to start transmission/reception of image data to/from the destination station based on the predetermined file transmit/receive protocol in response to the acquirement of the IP address of the destination station, and execute conversion of the signal that is transmitted/received and transmit/receive thus converted signal to/from the destination station, and

if said destination station is able to transmit/receive the communication data based on the predetermined file transmit/receive protocol, the control transmits a response confirmation signal to the destination station relevant to the obtained IP address and starts the transmission of the image data, in response to reception of a corresponding response signal of the destination station from said SIP proxy server.

8. and 9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) A control method according to Claim 7, wherein the IP address obtaining unit judges, by analyzing the telephone number of the destination station, ~~is analyzed to judge~~ whether or not [[it]] the obtaining unit is able to perform the communication with the destination station via a VoIP network, ~~it is tried~~ and tries to obtain the IP address of the destination station from a predetermined server when it is able to perform the communication via the VoIP network, and the communication data is transmitted/received to/from the destination station on the IP network based on the predetermined file transmit/receive protocol by using the obtained IP address of the destination station.

11. (Currently Amended) A control method according to Claim 7, wherein the IP network connecting ~~means~~ unit is an ADSL modem.

12. (Previously Presented) A control method according to Claim 7, wherein the IP address of the destination station is obtained from a predetermined server based on the telephone number of the destination station by using a predetermined UDP, and the communication data is transmitted/received to/from the destination station by using the obtained IP address of the destination station, based on a predetermined TCP.

13. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium on which is stored computer code for a control program for a communication apparatus which

includes an IP communication means and transmits/receives communication data to/from a destination station discriminated by a telephone number, ~~said program comprising the control steps of:~~ an IP address obtaining means for obtaining an IP address of the destination station from an SIP proxy server based on the telephone number of the destination station[[:]] , a facsimile communication means for performing a facsimile communication on a line switching network[[:]] , a converting means for converting ~~into data~~ a signal that said facsimile communication means transmits/receives into data transmitted/received on the IP network[[:]] , an IP connecting means for connecting ~~IP network connecting means~~ to an IP network[[:]] and a control unit, the program comprising:

~~controlling to;~~

if the destination station is able to transmit/receive communication data on the IP network based on a predetermined file transmit/receive protocol, the control means controls to start to transmit/receive image data to/from the destination station based on the predetermined file transmit/receive protocol using the obtained IP address of the destination station, in response to the acquirement of the IP address, ~~and~~

if the destination station is not able to transmit/receive communication data on the IP network based on the predetermined file transmit/receive protocol, the control means controls to start transmission/reception of image data to/from the destination station based on the predetermined file transmit/receive protocol in response to the acquirement of the IP address of the destination station, and execute conversion of the signal that is transmitted/received and transmit/receive thus converted signal to/from the destination station, and

if said destination station is able to transmit/receive the communication data based on the predetermined file transmit/receive protocol, the control transmits a response confirmation signal to the destination station relevant to the obtained IP address and starts the transmission of the image data, in response to reception of a corresponding response signal of the destination station from said SIP proxy server.

14. and 15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) A ~~control program~~ computer-readable storage medium according to Claim 13, ~~further comprising control steps of~~ wherein the IP address obtaining means judges, by analyzing the telephone number of the destination station, to judge whether or not [[it]] the obtaining unit is able to perform the communication with the destination station via a VoIP network, trying and tries to obtain the IP address of the destination station from a predetermined server when it is able to perform the communication via the VoIP network, and transmitting/receiving the communication data to/from the destination station on the IP network based on the predetermined file transmit/receive protocol by using the obtained IP address of the destination station.

17. (Currently Amended) A ~~control program~~ computer-readable storage medium according to Claim 13, further comprising a control step of performing the transmission/reception of the communication data on the IP network and the transmission/reception of the communication data on an analog communication path by using an ADSL modem.

18. (Currently Amended) A ~~control program~~ computer-readable storage medium according to Claim 13, further comprising a control steps of obtaining the IP address of the destination station from a predetermined server based on the telephone number of the destination station by using a predetermined UDP, and transmitting/receiving the communication data to/from the destination station by using the obtained IP address of the destination station based on a predetermined TCP.

19. (Currently Amended) A communication method which sends/receives communication data in IP (Internet Protocol) communication between communication apparatuses discriminated by telephone numbers, ~~wherein~~ the method comprising:

a first communication apparatus ~~obtains~~ obtaining an IP address of a second communication apparatus from a predetermined server based on the telephone number of the second communication apparatus, and ~~sends~~ sending a data communication request to the second communication apparatus based on the obtained IP address,

the second communication apparatus transmitting an HTTP data getting message to the first communication apparatus in response to reception of a response confirmation signal in SIP (Session Initiation Protocol) from the first communication apparatus; and

the communication apparatus on a data receiving side of the first and second communication apparatuses sends a data sending request to the communication apparatus on a data sending side of the first and second communication apparatuses based on a data send/receive protocol conforming to an HTTP (HyperText Transport Protocol), and

sends/receives the communication data on an IP network based on the data send/receive protocol.

20. (Original) A communication method according to Claim 19, wherein the predetermined server is an SIP (Session Initiation Protocol) proxy server, and the first communication apparatus obtains the IP address of the second communication apparatus from the SIP proxy server based on an SIP.

21. (Currently Amended) A communication method according to Claim 19, wherein the communication apparatus on the data receiving side of the first and second communication apparatuses has a WWW (World Wide Web) communication function ~~for performing processes such as browsing, a jump to another link, recording output, transfer and the like~~ in respect to data of a WWW server using the data send/receive protocol conforming to the HTTP, and receives the communication data from the communication apparatus on the data sending side by using the WWW communication function.

22. (Currently Amended) A communication method according to Claim 21, wherein the communication apparatus on the data receiving side of the first and second communication apparatuses performs ~~the~~ processes such as ~~the~~ browsing, ~~the~~ jump to another link, ~~the~~ recording output, ~~the~~ and transfer ~~and the like~~ in respect to the communication data received from the communication apparatus on the data sending side by using the WWW communication function.

23. and 24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium on which is stored computer code for a control program for a communication apparatus which controls the operation of the first or second communication apparatus described in Claim 19.

26. (Canceled)